

Lisa Fattah

Action Change Chance

1989

Acrylic on paper

98 x 69 cm (38 5/8 x 27 1/8 in.)

Private collection, Dubai

Lisa Fattah was the German-born wife of Ismail Fattah, the great Iraqi monumental sculptor. Her expressively painted, distorted figure conveys anger at the oppression of the Iraqi people. Its revolutionary message, summed up by the three words at the top of the paper, shows an acute awareness of both the risks and the potential benefits of violent transformation.



FATTAH, Ismail

BORN BASRA, IRAQ

1938–2004

Fattah studied at Baghdad's Institute of Fine Arts, where he attained a degree in painting and sculpture (1958). He later moved to Italy to study at the Accademia di Belle Arti, Rome (1963). Fattah created numerous public sculptures in Baghdad, one of the most prominent being the 'Martyrs' Monument' (1983). He died in Baghdad.

FATTAH, Lisa

BORN GERMANY

1941–1992

Lisa Fattah was the wife of Iraqi artist Ismail Fattah (see above). She graduated from the Accademia di Belle Arti, Rome (1963), and trained at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando, Madrid (1963–64). Her work has featured in various exhibitions, including a group exhibition of female artists in Amman (1992). She died in Baghdad.